

CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2023
Approved: June 6, 2023

On Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 6:59 p.m. Mayor Meyers called the regular Council meeting to order at 176 Johns Hill Road.

Council Members Present: Mayor Gregory Meyers, Councilmembers Deborah Ball, Gary Chinn, John Hoffert, John Braun, Alex Bramel. A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Attorney, Michelle Eviston; City Administrator, Michael Giffen; Finance Director, Harry Barlage; Police Chief, Bill Birkenhauer; City Clerk/Treasurer, Jeanne Pettit; Public Works Director, Steve Lehman.

Mayor Meyers requested a moment of silence for long time resident, Dr. Charles E. Voll who passed away April 20, 2023.

Minutes for Approval

- **Regular Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2023.** These minutes had been previously e-mailed to the Mayor, Council Members and City Staff for review.
- **Action Taken:** Member Chinn made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular council meeting held April 18, 2023. Seconded by Member Bramel. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Scheduled Guests

- Greg Halloran received the Good Neighbor Award from Mayor Meyers. Robert Gearding nominated Mr. Halloran.

Correspondence: None

Staff Reports

- Finance Director – Harry Barlage
 - Mr. Barlage presented the proposed 2023-24 budget to council.
- City Administrator – Michael Giffen
 - Mr. Giffen welcomed Frank Twehues from CT Consultants. He is the liaison to Highland Heights for engineering services.
 - There will be a public open house on May 18 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m., with TSW Design Group, to obtain feedback for the development of the greenspace by the City Building.
 - **Ordinance – First Reading**
 - **Ordinance 06-2023:** An ordinance adopting the City of Highland Heights, Kentucky annual budget for the fiscal year 7/1/2023 through 6/30/2024, by estimating revenues and resources and appropriating funds for the operation of city government.
- Police Chief – Bill Birkenhauer
- City Clerk/Treasurer – Jeanne Pettit
- Code Enforcement Officer – Will Hunt
- Public Works Supervisor – Steve Lehman
 - Discussion of rubber speed humps for city streets. Can be pulled up in the winter.
 - Police will set up a speed detection device to document and track speed on Knollwood.

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- Frank Twehues – Street Repairs
 - Hale and Thompson – work would include mill and resurface and put in a turnaround at the end of Thompson. Estimated cost is \$80,500.
 - High Street – a section of High Street off of Dale has some sub-grade failures that need repair, estimated cost is \$20,000.
 - Rose Avenue – currently working estimates to remove current asphalt overlay, repair subgrade failures, replace some curbing, and resurface the street. At the far northwest of street, a rain event can cause water to go over hill; will look at redirecting water to existing storm sewer.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Bramel made a motion authorizing the Mayor to spend up to \$121,110 to repair Hale, Thompson, and High streets. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion, None. Ayes: All. Member Meyers declared the motion passed.
- Attorney – Michelle Eviston
 - **Municipal Order 07-2023:** A municipal order appointing Elizabeth Willcutt to a four-year term on the Highland Heights Board of Adjustment.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Bramel made a motion to approve municipal order 07-2023. Seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Unfinished Business

- Arbor Day celebration was very successful. Three positions are still open for the Tree Commission.
- City Clean-Up is May 19-21 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Veterans Park and the Public Works building. Two dumpsters will be at each location.
- Saturday, May 13 is the postal service canned food drive. The Pantry of Hope is a beneficiary of the food collected.
- Council members spoke with citizens who support the smoking ban.

New Business

- **Selection of a Councilmember**
 - **Action Taken:** Member Hoffert made a motion to select Virgil Miller to fill the vacant city council seat. Seconded by Member Braun. Discussion: None.
 - **Roll Call:** Councilmember Braun, yes; Councilmember Hoffert, yes; Councilmember Ball, no; Councilmember Chinn, no; Councilmember Bramel, abstain.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Ball made a motion to go into recess. Seconded by Member Bramel. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Ball made a motion to come out of recess. Seconded by Member Bramel. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
 - **Discussion:** The mayor cannot break a tie when the vote is to fill a vacant councilmember's seat.
 - **Action Taken:** After the recess, Mayor Meyers declared the motion, to select Virgil Miller to fill the vacant city council seat, died due to lack of support.

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- **Action Taken:** Member Chinn made a motion to select Rene Heinrich to fill the vacant city council seat. Seconded by Member Ball. Discussion: None.
- **Roll Call:** Councilmember Braun, no; Councilmember Hoffert, yes; Councilmember Ball, yes; Councilmember Chinn, yes; Councilmember Bramel, abstain. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

- **Action Taken:** Member Hoffert made a motion to cancel the May 16, 2023 due to lack of business. Seconded by Member Ball. Discussion: None. Ayes:4, No: 1. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.


Citizens to Address Council: None

Adjournment

- **Action Taken:** Member Bramel made a motion to adjourn the May 2, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

Submitted by: 
Jeanne M. Pettit, City Clerk/Treasurer

Signed: 
Gregory V. Meyers, Mayor